



U.S. Department of Justice

***United States Attorney
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MEDIA RELEASE

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**SENTENCE HANDED DOWN IN
MAIL FRAUD / BANK FRAUD SCHEME**

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE - United States Attorney Tom Colantuono and Peter Zegarac, Inspector in Charge of the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, Boston Division, announced today that **HARANAKK DINGLE**, 30, of Bronx, New York and Manchester, NH, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Joseph DiClerico to 18 months in prison and 4 years of supervised release on mail and bank fraud charges.

In April, 2005, DINGLE was indicted on charges involving a scheme in which stolen checks were altered and then deposited into an account at Citizens Bank. Over \$33,000 in funds were then withdrawn from the account before the fraud was discovered. The funds were withdrawn in the course of numerous transactions at ATM machines at various Citizens Bank branches in Salem, New Hampshire and Andover, Lawrence and Methuen, Massachusetts. The altered checks were originally written in small amounts and were removed from the United States mails before reaching the intended postal customers in Windham, New Hampshire.

Commenting on the case, U.S. Attorney Tom Colantuono stated: "It is a serious crime to commit fraud by means of the U.S. Mails and federally-insured banks. This office will continue to work hard to prosecute anyone who engages in this sort of crime. This case shows that the Postal Inspection Service and its law enforcement partners in New Hampshire and Massachusetts will do whatever is necessary to bring perpetrators of these crimes to justice. This sentence should be a warning to anyone who believes that they can engage in mail fraud and bank fraud and avoid punishment."

In addition to imposing the prison sentence and supervised release period, the Court ordered DINGLE to pay restitution totaling \$33,228.10 to Citizens Bank and TD Bank North. DINGLE will begin his sentence on January 6, 2006. The investigation was conducted by the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, Massachusetts State Police, Lawrence, Massachusetts Police Department and the Massachusetts Identity Theft Financial Crimes Task Force. The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael J. Gunnison.